



NEWS

for immediate release

JUSTICE COURTS

MARICOPA COUNTY

111 W. Monroe, 8th Floor, Suite 820

Phoenix, AZ 85006

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East Phoenix #1 Justice Court Seeks Volunteer Interpreters

Phoenix, AZ – Bilingual Spanish-speaking volunteers are being sought to assist the East Phoenix #1 Justice Court in the delivery of court services to non-English speaking citizens. The East Phoenix #1 Justice Court is located in downtown Phoenix at 1 W. Madison.

“While cases are scheduled and calendared daily, the workload centers around walk-in,” said Judge Adelita Villegas. “Volunteer citizen interpreters would provide the greatest impact in providing assistance to citizens having difficulty speaking, writing or understanding the processes of the court.”

Arizona law provides for interpreters in criminal matters for people not speaking English. There is no provision in the law that assists this segment of the population for civil matters. Civil cases include cases filed by individual citizens against other citizens on both civil and small claims calendars; traffic violations, injunctions prohibiting harassment, eviction, and truancy matters. General services such as filing of papers and instructions on answering claims are other areas of interpretation assistance that would enhance citizen services.

The East Phoenix #1 Justice Court is open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. from Monday through Friday.

Judge Villegas said each volunteer would receive an orientation to court operations, forms and procedures. Hours of service would be flexible for each volunteer. Individuals interested in providing volunteer interpreter services should call the East Phoenix #1 Justice Court at (602) 254-1599.

